

October 3, 2002

Marlene H. Dortch
Commission Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street SW, CY-B402
Washington DC 20554

Re: Proceeding 02-306

Dear Ms. Dortch:

The Central City Association of Los Angeles (CCA) is a 300-member business advocacy association whose members employ over 250,000 people in the Los Angeles Region. CCA respectfully requests the Federal Communications Commission to approve SBC Pacific Bell's application to enter the long distance market. The addition of SBC Pacific Bell as a long distance provider will give our members a welcome and familiar alternative to the existing batch of telephone companies. Especially in these tough economic times, CCA members deserve the value and convenience of competitive pricing, one-stop shopping and billing, and responsive customer service that result from a wide-open telecommunications marketplace. We are confident you will find SBC Pacific Bell to be a worthy competitor in the long distance arena. CCA is very familiar with the amount of time and energy SBC has spent to prove to the California Public Utilities Commission that it had complied with the law and is ready to serve California's long distance customers.

With the approval of SBC Pacific Bell's application, the real winners will be the consumers and businesses of Los Angeles and California. When barriers are removed and regulatory rules are applied fairly, customers will gravitate toward companies that provide the best service and prices. We have already seen in other states what happens when the long distance market is fully open: prices are more competitive and technology advances.

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It's time for California to jump on the open long distance market bandwagon. We look forward to a more vibrant and competitive telecommunications marketplace with the addition of SBC Pacific Bell as a long distance company.

We respectfully request approval of SBC Pacific Bell's application to enter the long distance market.

Regards,

Carol E. Schatz
President & CEO